

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated July 25, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-10 are rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended, and claims 2 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new material has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3 and 5-15 are currently pending, of which claims 11-15 are withdrawn from consideration in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant affirms the election of claims 1-10 made July 2, 2007.

In the Office Action, claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent No. JP06-114,315 (hereinafter "Ishida"). Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishida in view of Stepper Motor System Basics, published at www.ams2000.com on 8/7/2000.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and reconsideration is requested. Applicants respectfully submit that Ishida does not anticipate claims 1-10 because it does not teach each and every element as set forth in the claims. Applicants submit that Ishida does not disclose at least, for example, "the first sensor including a magnetic sensor sending a electric signal to the main unit that changes as the body is lowered by the vertical driving stepping motor toward the table" as recited in claim 1.

Because Ishida does not teach each and every element of claim 1, Ishida does not anticipate claim 1. Furthermore, Ishida does not anticipate claims 3 and 5-10 by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Moreover, claims 1-10 are allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "the first sensor including magnetic sensor sending a electric signal to the main unit that changes as the body is lowered by the vertical

driving stepping motor toward the table". None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least the aforementioned feature of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 3 and 5-10, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: 25 October 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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